

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-25, and add claim 26 as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method for interactive control of a plastics material injection molding machine, where, via an input unit, which is provided with actuating fields, operating parameters necessary for an operating sequence of a machine are input, in a form which prompts an operator, into a data processing unit which stores these operating parameters, and subsequently one or more operating sequences are carried out in accordance with the stored operating parameters,

_____wherein a data set covering basic rules of the operating sequence of the machine is recorded in the data processing unit and, by using the data set, as a result, the operator is provided on a surface with visualization of a selected choice of input possibilities, based on a machine configuration and a machine environment, for additional parts of the operating sequence that can be added in a compatible manner into existing parts of the operating sequence,

_____wherein for manual input and/or for input by means of a manipulator, the input unit makes available to the operator on the surface a selected choice of actuating fields corresponding to the additional parts of the operating sequence and for navigation on a navigation surface statically arranged on the surface, and

wherein the navigation surface comprising at least three lines or three columns of actuating and input fields is hierarchical from line to line or column to column and is represented on the surface with a plurality of navigation levels associated with one another.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the actuating fields are imaged as input fields.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the hierarchical navigation surface is represented with three lines.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein a parameter region is represented on the surface for numeric and/or graphic representation of operating parameters.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein in addition to the navigation levels, a sequence editor representing the operating sequence in a schematic manner is represented on the surface.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the operating sequence comprises sequence symbols and when a sequence symbol is tapped, parameter images associated with the sequence symbol are displayed on the respective navigation level.
7. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the navigation levels comprise at least one top navigation level and at least one bottom navigation level and when three navigation levels are provided, the at least one top navigation level is represented symbolically in one line, whilst the at least one bottom navigation level is represented completely in the additional lines.
8. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according claim 1, wherein the operating sequence comprises sequence symbols and in the event of an alarm, the sequence symbols of the operating sequence relating to the alarm are identified and wherein tapping the sequence symbols leads to the representation of a relevant parameter region.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein favorite fields are preset or are presettable on the surface by the user and when actuated the favorite fields lead to a jump, independent of the navigation, to a preset or presettable parameter group.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 9, wherein when the favorite field is actuated, the parameter image edited last in the associated parameter group is displayed.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein tables are represented on the surface for inputting operating parameters and wherein, from these, a preferably non-editable graphic representation of the required values converted therefrom is generated.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein an editable input diagram is represented on the surface.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 12, wherein the representation of the input of the operating parameters for the various directions of axes displacement is effected in the direction of axes displacement.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the method is carried out on a cyclically operating plastics material injection molding machine.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ Apparatus for interactive control of a plastics material injection molding machine, having

a data processing unit,

an input unit with fields arranged on a surface for manual input and/or for input by means of a manipulator, by means of which fields, in a form which prompts an operator, operating parameters necessary for an operating sequence of the machine can be input into the data processing unit which stores the operating parameters for subsequently carrying out one or more operating sequences in accordance with the stored operating parameters, wherein the fields are actuating fields for navigation on a navigation surface statically arranged on the surface,

a data set recorded in the data processing unit and covering basic rules of the operating sequence of the machine,

using the data set and as a result, a selected choice, offered to the operator displayed on a surface, of possible input possibilities, based on machine configuration and machine environment, for additional parts of the operating sequence that can be added in a compatible manner into existing parts of the operating sequence,

wherein the navigation surface comprises at least three lines or at least three columns of actuating and input fields and is hierarchical from line to line or column to column and comprises a plurality of navigation levels associated with one another.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus~~ Apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the actuating fields are imaged as input fields.

17. ((Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus~~ Apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the hierarchical navigation surface includes three lines.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 15, wherein a parameter region is provided on the surface for numeric and/or graphic representation of the operating parameters.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 15, wherein in addition to the navigation levels, a sequence editor representing the operating sequence in a schematic manner is provided on the surface.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 15, wherein the navigation levels comprise at least one top navigation level and at least one bottom navigation level and when three navigation levels are provided, sequence symbols for the at least one top navigation level is provided in one line, whilst elements of the at least one bottom navigation level where necessary are provided completely in the additional lines.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 15, wherein identification means are provided for identifying sequence symbols of the operating sequence related to an alarm.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 15, wherein preset favorite fields or favorite fields that are presettable by the user are provided on the surface, said favorite fields being provided as jump keys for a jump independent of the navigation to a preset or presettable parameter group.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 22, wherein a linking of the jump keys with a parameter image last edited within the associated parameter group is

provided.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ Apparatus according ~~of~~ to claim 15, wherein a non-editable graphic representation of required values converted from the input parameters and/or an editable input diagram is provided on the surface.

25. (Currently Amended) A ~~data~~ Data-carrier having a program for the accomplishment of the method according to claim 1.

26. (New) A method for interactive control of a plastics material injection molding machine, where, via an input unit, which is provided with actuating fields, operating parameters necessary for an operating sequence of a machine are input, in a form which prompts an operator, into a data processing unit which stores these operating parameters, and subsequently one or more operating sequences are carried out in accordance with the stored operating parameters,

wherein a data set covering basic rules of the operating sequence of the machine is recorded in the data processing unit and, by using the data set, as a result, the operator is provided on a surface with visualization of a selected choice of input possibilities, based on a machine configuration and a machine environment, for additional parts of the operating sequence that can be added in a compatible manner into existing parts of the operating sequence,

wherein for manual input and/or for input by means of a manipulator, the input unit makes available to the operator on the surface a selected choice of actuating fields corresponding to the additional parts of the operating sequence and for navigation on a navigation surface statically arranged on the surface,

wherein the navigation surface comprising at least three lines or three columns of actuating and input fields is hierarchical from line to line or column to column and is represented on the surface with a plurality of navigation levels associated with one another, and

wherein, when the operator's input is made, even at a hierarchically higher level, alternative possibilities are visualized as a selected choice based on the operator's input.